

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS
455 Golden Gate Avenue, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: (415) 703-4920
Fax: (415) 703-5218

www.dir.ca.gov



ADDRESS REPLY TO:
Div. of Apprenticeship Standards
P. O. Box 420603
San Francisco, CA 94142-0603

May 8, 2009

Neelam Chandna
Reich, Adell & Cvitan
3550 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2314

Re: Laborers Southern California Apprenticeship Program

Dear Ms. Chandna:

Your request on behalf of the Laborers Southern California Apprenticeship Program (Program) for an exemption from the one hour of apprentice employment for each five hours of journey level labor performed on Public Works projects, relative to Labor Code Section 1777.5, has been reviewed by the Division. The Program did a review and has determined that the hourly apprenticeship ratio is not feasible for the training of their apprentices.

The Program's request for an exemption is based on the following:

There are dozens of employers of construction craft laborers who, because of the size of their operations, are able to utilize one or two laborers. An example of this type of employer is an electrical contractor who uses a laborer to demolish sidewalks when working on streetlights or traffic signals. Requiring such an employer to meet the ratio of hours would cause it to violate the JAC Standards, which state:

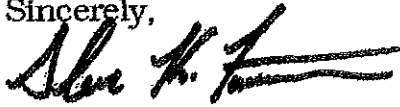
- 1) Apprentices work under the supervision of qualified journeymen;
- 2) Apprentices are trained in the use of new equipment, materials and processes as they come into the craft.

You state the fact that strict adherence to the hourly ratio requirement precludes the use of registered apprentices by these small contractors, claiming that the 1-5 hour ratio can create situations where apprentices will not be able to be properly trained or supervised on the job.

Upon request, Labor Code Section 1777.5 authorizes the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) to order a minimum ratio of not less than one apprentice for four journeymen where the hourly ratio is not feasible for a particular occupation.

Therefore, based on the authority vested in the DAS by Labor Code Section 1777.5, the Southern California Laborers Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee is granted an exemption from the one to five hourly apprentice ratio on Public Works projects and is ordered to utilize a minimum ratio of not less than one apprentice for four journeyman in the construction craft laborer classification. This exemption will remain in effect until revoked.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen H. Forman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Glen Forman, Acting Chief
Division of Apprenticeship Standards

Effective Date: May 11, 2009